

LLANDRINDOD WELLS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Town Hall,

Llandrindod Wells.

7th November, 1955.

To the Chairman and Members,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration the report on the Sanitary Conditions and Vital Statistics of the Urban District for the year 1954.


This report is prepared in accordance with the instructions issued by the Welsh Board of Health Circular 28/54 (Wales) and presents briefly the scope of the activities of the Health Department.

Yours faithfully,

J.E.JENKINS, M.A., B.M., B.Ch.,

Medical Officer of Health.

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LLANDRINDOD WELLS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE  
YEAR 1954.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area of District	.....	1509 acres
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population Mid. 1954	.....	3280 persons
No. of Inhabited Houses at the end of the year (including flats)	.....	1066
Rateable Value - 31st December 1954	.....	£25,754
Product of Penny Rate	.....	£99. 16. 10

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The natural conditions of the town have been detailed in previous reports and its healthy situation and ideal climatological conditions and purity of air is still unmarred by the smoke laden, grimy and foggy atmospheres of the country's cities and industrial areas.

The Climatological conditions of 1954 were as follows together with a comparison of 1952 and 1953.

	<u>1954</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
Total Rainfall....	47.68"	38.13"	32.48"
Highest Maximum Temperature..	79°F	80°F	85°F
Average Maximum Temperature..	53°F	54°F	56°F
Lowest Minimum Temperature...	10°F	14°F	15°F
Average Minimum Temperature..	40°F	38.75°F	41°F
Sunshine Hours....	1218 hrs.	1325 hrs.	1471 hrs.

The years weather was on the whole poor, and rainfall above average was experienced.

The years weather was wet and dull, with at times severe gales. A very cold January was experienced followed by a dry sunny April, but a dull and mainly wet summer, followed by mild weather in October and December.

The rainfall of 47 inches was the highest for several years and the sunshine at 1218 hours was the lowest.

No very serious illness could be traceable to the weather of the year, but it was noticeable that the lack of the summer sunshine had some detrimental effect on aged persons.

A minor influenza epidemic occurred during October and The Secondary School was closed for one week as the pupils at the School were from an extensive area and the possibility of av oiding widespread was minimised.

OCCUPATIONS.

The gradual change of the town, reported upon in other years, appears to have reached its end and no further radical change in the occupations of the town were noticeable during the twelve months. The efforts of the Council and of local associations to obtain additional industries to the Town were unsuccessful and the trend for young people to leave the district for employment elsewhere appeared to be increasing, this trend it appears is noticeable in all the small Mid-Wales Towns and will, unless arrested eventually lead to a heavy decrease in population.

The holiday season of 1954 showed little improvement on the previous year. The number of the holidaying public taking holidays on coach tours showed an increase, but weather conditions deterred the other holiday visitors and generally the amenities provided were seldom fully extended.

Housing conditions in the town were maintained and no deterioration was noticeable, in fact it could be said that the difficult housing situation of other years was improved upon.

TABLE 1.

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT DURING 1954.

	Total	Male	Female
Live Births (Legitimate	43	19	24
(Illegitimate	3	2	1
Still Borths	Nil	Nil	Nil
	46	21	25

Birth Rate per 1000 of the Estimated Population:-

Live Births...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14.00
Still Births...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

DEATHS

	Total	Male	Female
No. of Deaths	44	24	20

The death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population is 13.41

Death rate	1953	-	15.9
	1952	-	16.4
	1951	-	12.50
	1950	-	10.31
	1949	-	13.38
	1948	-	11.5
	1947	-	12.6

Deaths from Puerperal causes.....	Nil
Death rate from Puerperal causes.....	Nil
Death rate of infants under one year of age:-	
Infant deaths under one year.....	Nil
All infants per 1000 live births.....	Nil
Legitimate infants per 1000, legitimate births.....	Nil
Illegitimate infants per 1000, illegitimate live births.....	Nil
Death from child birth.....	Nil
Death from malignant diseases.....	4
Deaths from measles.....	Nil
Death from Whooping Cough (all ages).....	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age).....	Nil



TABLE 2.

STATISTICS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

Causes of Death	M.	F.
All cases	24	20
1. Tuberculosis Respiratory	Nil	Nil
2. Tuberculosis other	Nil	Nil
3. Syphilitic disease	Nil	Nil
4. Diphtheria	Nil	Nil
5. Whooping Cough	Nil	Nil
6. Acute Poliomyelitis	Nil	Nil
7. Measles	Nil	Nil
8. Other infective and parasitis diseases	Nil	Nil
9. (i) Malignant Meoplasm - Stomach	Nil	Nil
(ii) " " - Lung bronchus	Nil	Nil
(iii) " " - Breast	Nil	Nil
(iv) " " - Uterus	Nil	1
(v) Other Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	1	2
(vi) Lenkaemai Alenkaernia	Nil	Nil
10. Vascular Lesions of nervous system	1	3
11. Diabetes	Nil	Nil
12. Coronary disease, angina	3	2
13. Hypertensia with heart disease	1	Nil
14. Other heart disease	5	6
15. Other circulatory disease	1	1
16. Influenza	Nil	Nil
17. Pneumonia	Nil	1
18. Bronchitis	3	Nil
19. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	Nil
20. Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	Nil	Nil
21. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	Nil	Nil
22. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	Nil
23. Hyperplasia of Prostate	Nil	Nil
24. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	Nil	Nil
25. Congenital malformations	Nil	Nil
26. Other defined and illdefined diseases	4	3
27. Motor Vehicle Accidents	Nil	Nil
28. All other accidents	3	1
29. Suicide	Nil	Nil
30. Homicide and operations of War	Nil	Nil

SECTION B.GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.1. Public Officers:-

Medical Officer of Health (Part time)

J.Emrys Jenkins, M.A., B.M., B.Ch.,

Sanitary Inspector (Part time)

R.J.Morris, A.R.I.C.S., M.R.C.I., Cert. S.I.,

2. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

(a) The examination and analysis of water, sewage effluents and stream contamination are carried out by the Public Analyst of the County Laboratories, Carmarthen. Analyst - H.J.Evans & Partner.

(b) The examination of milk and ice-cream samples are carried out at the Public Health Laboratories, Shrewsbury Infirmary.

3. HEALTH SERVICES. The following services are carried out by the Radnorshire County Council under the National Health Service Act, 1946.

- (i) Maternity and Child Welfare
- (ii) Clinics
- (iii) Dental care for expectant mothers and nursing mothers and young children together with School Dental Services.
- (iv) Midwives Service, delegated to the Radnorshire County Nursing Association.
- (v) Health Visiting delegated to the Radnorshire County Nursing Association.
- (vi) Home Nursing delegated to the Radnorshire County Nursing Association.
- (vii) Vaccination and immunisation of children under five and of school age is carried out by Registered Medical Practitioners of the parents choice or by the County Medical Officer.

The vaccination of adults is carried out by Registered Medical Practitioners.

- (viii) Ambulance Service
- (ix) Prevention of Illness, Care and after care of persons suffering from tuberculosis, mental illness or defectiveness and other types of illness is organised under the aegis of the County Health Committee.

#### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply. No difficulties on water supplies occurred throughout the year.

The main source of the supply administered by the Council, the source of which is the River Ithon, was efficiently maintained and the purification by mechanical filtration and chlorination was satisfactory as shown by the tabulation of Analysts report tabulated in Table 3.

It was necessary to augment the supply on the Doldowlod Estate from the Town supply for a short period.

Chlorination is maintained to give a free chlorine content of between 0.08 and 0.15 p.p.m. after 30 minutes contact.

The ph value of the water is maintained at neutral by the injection of soda ash.

Two new small diameter mains were laid, one at Princes Avenue for the "Sunnycroft" and adjacent premises and one at Cefnlllys Road for new bungalow and adjacent premises.

The two service reservoirs have been maintained in good condition and both reservoirs were cleansed during the Autumn of the year.

Nine house service pipes were renewed, this being made necessary by blockage due to corrosion. This renewal proved satisfactory.

There were eighteen new water services connected for new properties or agricultural purposes.

Statistics in respect of the water supply are detailed below:-

Estimated Population supplied from public water mains.....	3254
Estimated Population not supplied from public water mains.....	22 persons
Number of dwelling houses or flats supplied direct into premises.....	1037 dwellings
Number of dwelling houses and farms supplied by means of stand pipes...	17 dwellings
Estimated population supplied by stand pipes.....	51 persons
Number of premises (farms) with own piped supplies.....	4
Number of premises (farms) with no piped supply.....	2
Premises supplied from mains and outside Urban District.....	13
Estimated population supplied " " " .....	158 persons

TABLE 3.

Bacteriological Analysis for the year 1954 carried out by  
H.J.Evans, Public Analyst, Bank Lane, Carmarthen.

Water taken from domestic taps:-

Date of Sample	No. of Organisms 48 hours at 22°C.	Coli present in C.Cs. 100,50,25,20,10,5,1	Remarks
13.3.54	59	Nil	Highly Satisfactory
28.6.54	59	Nil	Ditto
2.8.54	450	18	No serious pollution
2.11.54	59	Nil	Highly Satisfactory
29.11.54	48		Ditto

Public Health Laboratory Service

19.10.54		16	Unsatisfactory
20.10.54			
Pumping Station		Nil	} - Highly Satisfactory
House Service		Nil	
Rising Main		Nil	

Chemical Analysis carried out during the year.

Sample No. 1 From River Ithon  
Sample No. 2 From Pumping Main before Chlorination  
Sample No. 3 From House Tap

	Parts per 100,000		
	<u>No. 1</u>	<u>No. 2</u>	<u>No. 3</u>
Free Ammonia	0.0048	0.0022	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0068	0.0016	Nil
Chlorides, as Cl <sub>2</sub>	1.10	1.10	1.20
Calculated as Common Salt	1.82	1.82	1.98
Total Solids	9.3	10.2	10.5
Nitrates	0.05	0.04	0.05
Nitrites	Nil	Nil	Nil
Oxygen consumed at 27°C.			
In 4 hours	0.242	0.037	0.034
In 15 mins	0.150	0.020	0.016

Additional Features:-

Lime at Cao	2.13	1.80	1.84
Total Alkalinity as CaCo <sub>3</sub>	3.00	2.00	2.00
" Hardness	3.50	2.70	2.70
ph Value	7.0	7.4	6.0
ph S	7.7	7.6	7.7
Saturation Index	-0.7	-0.2	-1.7
Colour (Hazen Units)	4 0	0	0

Bacteriological Examinations.

No. of Organisms per c.c. developed on Agar during 48 hours @ 37°C.	14	3	1
No. of organisms per c.c. developed on Agar during 48 hours @ 22°C	156	27	10
Coliform organisms per 100 c.cs.	18+	Nil	Nil
Faecal coli per 100 c.c.	18+	Nil	Nil



TABLE 4.

Water Sonsumption (All consumers, and trades).

Year	Water Pumped to Service Reservoirs	Estimated Population served	Estimated Consumption per head per day	Trade Consumption metered supplies
1954	70,630,000	3284	58.0	12,684,000
1948	64,100,000	3500	50.1	12,500,000
1949	67,490,000	3438	51	9,250,000
1950	62,010,000	3586	44.6	10,250,000
1951	67,690,000	3250 (Census)	48.7	10,250,000
1952	66,710,000	3286	38.9	11,750,000
1953	68,000,000	3275	56.8	12,500,000

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Drainage. The drainage of the town is on the partial separate system, a large volume of the road waters and a certain volume of roof and yard waters being drained separately into suitably placed water courses.

No flooding of premises occurred. Major repairs were necessary to a short section of 6 inch diameter sewer when the bank of the Arlais Brook was washed away and part of the sewer collapsed.

The sewer system proved adequate and no proposals were under consideration for the construction of relief or other sewers.

Sewerage Disposal. The three sewerage disposal works dealt with the purification of sewage to give effluents of moderate condition.

No works of extension or modernisation were carried out.

No samples of sewage effluent were sent for analysis during the year.

Rivers and Streams. No action taken in regard to pollution. Examinations were carried out of water courses passing through the town. No pollution of any extent was found.

PUBLIC CLEANSING. Collection of household and trade refuse proceeded as in other years by the Council's own staff and vehicles. The method of collection remained the same.

Disposal of refuse by incineration was continued throughout the year.

The collection of waste paper was maintained, the tonnage of paper sold being 26 tons.

Scrap iron disposed of was 17 tons.

FOOD.Inspection and Supervision of Food.Milk.

Residential designated pasteurised Retailer	-	1
Residential Designated Traders	-	1
Residential Registered Dairymen designated Retailers	-	3
Non Residential Designated Retailers	-	5
Visits to Cowsheds during year	-	Nil
Visits to Dairies during year	-	4
Action taken by the Council in respect of unclean milk	-	Nil



Samples were forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory, Shrewsbury, the results being as follows:-

<u>Samples for Tuberculosis</u>	-	Samples taken	-	3
Results	-		-	No sample produced Tuberculosis

<u>Samples for Methylene Blue Test.</u>	Samples taken	-	28
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Results - Samples satisfying test	-	24
Not satisfying	"	4

Registered Ice cream Manufacturers (Heat Treatment)	-	Nil
Registered Ice cream Manufacturers (Cold Mix)	-	1
Registered Retailers of Ice cream	-	14
Ice cream sampling. Number of samples	-	12
Results of Samples: Grade 1 - 7; Grade 2 - 5; Grade 3 - Nil.		
Inspections carried out of Ice cream Retailers Premises	-	15

#### TABLE 6.

##### NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES AND TYPES.

Manufacturers other than Bakehouses	Nil
Bakehouses	5
Confectioners	5
Fish and Chip Fryers	3
Retail Green Grocers	5
Grocers	10
Hotels	11
Milk Shops	Nil
Meat Retailers	7
Licensed Premises	6
Pork Butchers	Nil
Restaurants	8
Sausage and cold meat Producers	5

##### Number Registered under Section 14 of Food and Drugs Act.

Ice Cream	15
Cooked Meats	2

##### Number of Dairies Registered under Milk and Dairies

<u>Regulations</u>	1
Number of Inspections of Registered Food Premises	- 6
Number of Inspections of Food Preparation Premises	- 20
" " " " Bakehouses	- 10
Complaints received in respect of foods	- Nil

New Byelaws in respect of Food were made in 1951 and inspections have primarily been to see that the requirements of these bye-laws are carried out.

Condemned Foods are destroyed by incineration.

##### Foods Surrendered or Condemned and Destroyed.

Canned Foods including milk, meats etc.	-	206
Fish	- - - - -	3 stone and 3 boxes of treated fish.
Frozen Meat	- - - - -	Nil
Bacon	- - - - -	56½ lbs.
Poultry	- - - - -	4 Irish Turkeys

Adulteration of Foods. The administration of the Acts dealing with the adulteration of food is carried out by the officers of the Radnorshire County Council and no particulars are available to my Council.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks. No cases of food poisoning occurred during the year.

Meat Inspection. The centralised slaughtering of cattle, sheep and pigs was continued by the Ministry of Food up to 2nd July, 1954 when the Council licensed four slaughterhouses, 1 being only for slaughter of sheep and pigs. On the changeover of the centralised slaughtering by the Ministry, a large amount of meat in particular beef has been imported from wholesale butchers at Shrewsbury and Builth Wells.

ANIMALS KILLED, INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

TABLE 7.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	111		7		289
Number inspected	111		7	2070	289
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole Carcasses Condemned	2		4	3	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	22		Nil	97	4
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	21.6%		57%	4.8%	1.4%
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u>					
Whole Carcasses condemned	Nil		Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	Nil		Nil	Nil	9
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	Nil		Nil		3.1%

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Cases of notifiable infectious disease occurred during the twelve months. No cases were transferred to Isolation Hospitals and the cases arising were isolated at home.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1954.

Diseases	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital	Total Deaths
Small Pox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Enteris Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyreia	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	3	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	1
Carried forward	4	Nil	1

Brought forward	4	Nil	1
Other diseases notifiable	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Chicken Pox	-	-	-
Total	4	To Hospital Nil	Deaths 1

Inspections carried out in respect of infectious diseases - 5

Rooms fumigated for Infectious diseases or otherwise - 3

Rooms fumigated for vermin 1

Cancer. No action taken.

Blindness. No action taken.

Tuberculosis. The requirements of the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1939, have been carried out.

No action has been taken under the special powers given to local authorities under these Regulations.

No applications were made under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis of the respiratory tract.

#### TUBERCULOSIS. NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1954.

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory. M.	Non-Respiratory F.	Respiratory. M.	Non-Respiratory F.	Respiratory. M.	Non-Respiratory F.	Respiratory. M.	Non-Respiratory F.
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and up	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

#### Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation, Vaccination.

The number of children immunised against diphtheria and whooping cough and number vaccinated during the year was as follows:-

Age Group	Diphtheria No.	Whooping Cough No.	Vaccination No.
Under 1 year	10	12	1
Age 1 year	3	2	1
Age 2 years	-	-	-
Age 3 years	-	-	-
Age 4 years	-	-	-
Age 5 to 9 years	1	-	-
Age 10 to 14 years	-	-	2
	14	14	4



## HOUSING.

### 1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:-

(a)	Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	135
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	146
2. (a)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation	Nil
(b)	Number of representations made to local authority with a view to making of closing orders	Nil
(c)	Number of closing orders made	Nil
(d)	Number of dwelling houses rendered fit as a result of informal action	11
(e)	Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	11
(f)	Number of Statutory Notices issued requiring remedy of housing defects	Nil
(g)	Number of dwelling houses rendered fit as a result of Statutory Notices	Nil
(h)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which complaints made to Justices	Nil
(i)	Result of complaint to Justices	Nil
(j)	Statutory Notices outstanding at end of 1953	Nil
(k)	Statutory Notices outstanding at end of 1954	Nil

No additional cases of overcrowding were found during the year.

Properties held under requisition for housing of inadequately housed  
at end of year - Nil.

### Number of new houses erected, and being erected, during the year:-

(a)	By Council with State Grant	-	10.	Under Construction at end of year	-	2
(b)	By private persons	-	1.	Under	" " " " " "	- 2

Number of new dwellings provided during year by conversion of properties  
into flats:-

(a)	By Council	-	Nil
(b)	By private persons	-	Nil
(c)	By private persons under Part II of Housing Act 1949	-	3
(d)	Number of dwellings improved during the year under Part II of the Housing Act 1949	-	1

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

### Summary of the work of the Sanitary Inspector's Department.

Total number of Inspections and Visits made - 294

#### Nuisances.

No. of visits re. nuisances	30
Visits re. works in progress	10
Notices issued	
(a) Informal letters	10
(b) Informal notices	Nil
(c) Statutory Notices	Nil
Notices and letters complied with	10
Outstanding	Nil
Legal proceedings	Nil

#### Housing.

Inspections as per report 146

#### Moveable Dwellings.

No. Registered Nil

#### Bakehouses.

No. in use 5  
No. of inspections 10

#### Lodging Houses.

No. Registered Nil

#### Water Supply.

No. of samples taken 12  
No. found polluted 1  
Houses and flats connected  
to supply 1060  
New houses connected 13  
New connections to houses 9



Food Preparing Places.

No. of Inspections 20

Slaughterhouses.

No. of visits (approx) 198

No. of Condemnations 141

Foods.

No. of seizures of unsound food Nil

No. of condemnations 219

Dairymen.

No. of Registered 3

No. of Inspections 4

No. of Retailers 10

No. of milk samples for T.B. 3

No. of " " found to produce T.B. Nil

No. of enquiries under P.H.A. Regulations re. Contacts Nil

No. of milk samples for test 28

No. of " " conforming to test 24

Not conforming with blue test 4

Dairies.

No. of Registered Traders 2

No. of Dairies 1

No. of Inspections 4

Infectious Diseases.

No. of enquiries Nil

No. taken to hospital Nil

No. of houses disinfected 3

No. of houses disinfected re. fleas, lice, etc. 1

House Drainage.

No. laid or relaid 16

No. cleansed 22

Water Closets, etc.

No. improved or repaired 1

No. of bucket closets in district 6

No. of cesspools in district 2

No. of earth closets in district 1

Licensed Premises.

Action taken in respect of sanitation 2

Dangerous Structures.

Action taken in respect of 2

Accumulation of Litter.

Action taken in respect of 1

Camping Sites.

1. Number of sites in area for camping purposes under canvas during 1954..... 1
2. Number of Caravan Camping sites..... 3
3. Number of Camping sites requiring to be licensed in accordance with Public Health Act..... Nil
4. Number of Caravan Camping Sites licensed under Public Health Act..... Nil
5. Estimated maximum number of Campers in the area at one time during 1954..... 20

Smoke Abatement. Inspections made in respect of smoke abatement - 2  
 Informal action taken in connection with - 1 property

Swimming Baths and Pools. There is one privately owned Swimming Pool in the town not open for public use during the summer and used very little.

Visits of inspection made - 1  
 Tests for chlorination - Nil

It was found that the purification and filtration plant was efficiently worked and purification was satisfactory with possible over chlorination.

Rodent Control Work.Premises.

Number of inspections made - 482  
 Premises found infested - 38  
 Treatments carried out by Council 32  
 Treatments carried out by occupier 6  
 Dead rats picked up - 19

Sewer Treatments. Maintenance treatment of sewers was carried out in 1954.

11 manholes were baited.

Nil manholes showed presence of rats.

Nil manholes showed poison bait takes.

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